TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Communications Department
50 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001
Telephone: (202) 639-2555
Facsimile: (202) 639-2558

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 22, 1992 -- Freight traffic on the nation's railroads was virtually the same during the week ended October 17 as it was during the corresponding week of last year, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Intermodal volume rose 10.9 percent during the week, totaling 142,686 trailers and containers. Carload traffic; which does not include intermodal, declined 0.1 percent to 339,431 cars, with loadings up 3.4 percent in the West but down 3.1 percent in the East. Total volume was estimated at 21.7 billion ton-miles, the same as a year earlier.

"Coal loadings continue to lag," noted Dr. Harvey A. Levine, vice president of the AAR's economics and finance department. For the week coal was off more than 5,000 cars (4.2 percent). For the year, coal is off almost 140,000 cars (2.6 percent).

For the first 42 weeks of 1992, the AAR reported total intermodal loadings of 5,353,764, up 7.4 percent from the comparable 1991 period. Carload traffic was up 0.9 percent for the 42 weeks, totaling 13,613,818 cars. Total traffic for 42 weeks was estimated at 857.2 billion ton-miles, up 2.4 percent from 1991.

Railroads reporting to the AAR account for 94 percent of carloads and 97 percent of intermodal loadings.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 17, 1992

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 17, 1992	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1991	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	30,130	32,470	-7.2 %	30,374	-0.8 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	2,037	2,045	-0.4	2,321	-12.2
Metallic Ores	19,589	13,561	44.5	21,172	-7.5
Coal	125,841	131,308	-4.2	124,657	0.9
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	15,699	15,630	0.4	15,656	0.3
Nonmetallic Minerals	8,841	9,725	-9.1	8,917	-0.9
Grain Mill Products	10,155	9,939	2.2	10,363	-2.0
Food & Kindred Products	9,275	9,138	1.5	9,275	0.0
Primary Forest Products	9,008	9,306	-3.2	8,980	0.3
Lumber & Wood Products	5,274	5,359	-1.6	5,209	1.2
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	9,841	9,718	1.3	10,331	-4.7
Chemicals	28,259	27,271	3.6	28,505	-0.9
Petroleum Products	5,542	5,058	9.6	5,347	3.6
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,882	9,653	2.4	10,441	-5.4
Coke	5,683	5,365	5.9	5,546	2.5
Metals & Products	9,657	9,706	-0.5	9,444	2.3
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	19,729	18,966	4.0	18,614	6.0
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,423	8,858	-4.9	8,634	-2.4
All Other Carloads	6,566	6,675	-1.6	6,230	5.4
Total	**339,431**	**339,751**	**-0.1 %**	**340,016**	**-0.2 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 17, 1992 1992	1991	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 42 WEEKS ENDING OCTOBER 17, 1992 1992	1991	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**339,431**	**339,751**	**-0.1 %**	**13,613,818**	**13,490,576**	**0.9 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	72,803	66,077	10.2	2,659,119	2,558,654	3.9
Containers	69,883	62,567	11.7	2,694,645	2,427,089	11.0
Total	**142,686**	**128,644**	**10.9**	**5,353,764**	**4,985,743**	**7.4**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**21.7**	**21.7**	**0.0 %**	**857.2**	**836.9**	**2.4 %**

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